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A Simple and Effective Method of Administering Anthelmintics

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF GASTROENTEROLOGY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

BY

W. HORSLEY GANTT, M.D.

AND

PAUL FOREMAN WIEST, M.D.

Baltimore, Md.

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It is not unusual to note that the treatment of intestinal teniasis as it is ordinarily administered is frequently ineffective. The failure to expel the entire worm with the head may be due to the character of the drug employed, its deterioration, or the method of its administration. Certain of the anthelmintics are worthless, others deteriorate with age; again, unless the patient be previously properly prepared by means of cathartics as well as by careful dietetic regulations the entire worm may not be expelled, due to the fact that an intestine filled with contents as well as mucus may prevent the thorough access of the vermifuge to the worm.

Nausea and vomiting are frequently the result of the treatment and often render it futile, and entail upon the patient the discomfort of a repetition of the treatment after a number of months.

Owing to the unsatisfactory results obtained in administering anthelmintics by the usual method, Dr. T. R. Boggs advised the treatment through the duodenal tube in the first of our cases. The result was so

By means of the treatment just described the parasite was completely removed with but little discomfort to the patient. In all of our cases the results of this treatment were equally satisfactory.

In conclusion we again desire to draw attention to the fact that by means of the duodenal tube we have an efficient, safe, and painless method of removing intestinal worms, and one which can be utilized by any physician familiar with the passage of the duodenal tube. By the insertion of the anthelmintic directly into the duodenum, discomfort, nausea, and repetition of treatment are obviated, and closer contact of the anthelmintic with the head of the worm is insured.



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H.A. Hare, M.D.

Professor of Therapeutics in the Jefferson Medical College
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and

Edward Martin, M.D.

Professor of Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania
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